### **BEFORE**

# THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2019-20-C

Re:	Application of Teliax, Incorporated for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Facilities-Based Local Exchange and Resold Long Distance Telecommunications Services, and for Flexible Regulation of Local Exchange Services and Alternative Regulation of	STIPULATION
	Long Distance Service Offerings	

The South Carolina Telephone Coalition ("SCTC") (see attachment "A" for list of companies) and Teliax, Inc. ("Teliax" or "Applicant") hereby enter into the following stipulations.

As a consequence of these stipulations and conditions, SCTC does not oppose Teliax's Application.

SCTC and Applicant stipulate and agree as follows:

- 1. SCTC does not oppose the granting of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Applicant, provided the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission") makes the necessary findings to justify granting of such a certificate, and provided the conditions contained within this stipulation are met.
- 2. Applicant stipulates and agrees that any Certificate which may be granted will authorize Applicant to provide service only to customers located in non-rural local exchange company ("LEC") service areas of South Carolina, except as provided herein.
- 3. Applicant stipulates that it is not asking the Commission to make a finding at this time regarding whether competition is in the public interest for rural areas.
- 4. Applicant stipulates and agrees that it will not provide any local service, by its own facilities or otherwise, to any customer located in a rural incumbent LEC's service area, unless and until Applicant provides such rural incumbent LEC and the Commission with written notice of its COLUMBIA 1928919VI

intent to do so at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the intended service. During such notice period, the rural incumbent LEC will have the opportunity to petition the Commission to exercise all rights afforded it under Federal and State law. Also, Applicant acknowledges that the Commission may suspend the intended date for service in rural LEC territory for ninety (90) days while the Commission conducts any proceeding incident to the Petition or upon the Commission's own Motion, provided that the Commission can further suspend the implementation date upon showing of good cause.

- 5. Applicant stipulates and agrees that, if Applicant gives notice that it intends to serve a customer located in a rural incumbent LEC's service area, and either (a) the Commission receives a Petition from the rural incumbent LEC to exercise its rights under Federal or State law within such 30-day period, or (b) the Commission institutes a proceeding of its own, then Applicant will not provide service to any customer located within the service area in question without prior and further Commission approval.
- 6. Applicant acknowledges that any right which it may have or acquire to serve a rural telephone company service area in South Carolina is subject to the conditions contained herein, and to any future policies, procedures, and guidelines relevant to such proposed service which the Commission may implement, so long as such policies, procedures, and guidelines do not conflict with Federal or State law.
- 7. The parties stipulate and agree that all rights under Federal and State law are reserved to the rural incumbent LECs and Applicant, and this Stipulation in no way suspends or adversely affects such rights, including any exemptions, suspensions, or modifications to which they may be entitled.

- 8. Applicant agrees to abide by all State and Federal laws and to participate, to the extent it may be required to do so by the Commission, in the support of universally available telephone service at affordable rates.
- 9. Applicant hereby amends its application and its prefiled testimony in this docket to the extent necessary to conform with this Stipulation.

AGREED AND STIPULATED to this 29 day of February, 2019.

Teliax, Inc.

South Carolina Telephone Coalition

David Aldworth

President, Chief Executive Officer

Teliax, Inc.

M. John Bowen, Jr. Margaret M. Fox

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Attorneys for the South Carolina Telephone Coalition

#### ATTACHMENT A

## South Carolina Telephone Coalition Member Companies for Purposes of Local Service Stipulation

Chesnee Telephone Company

Chester Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista

Comporium, Inc. (f/k/a Rock Hill Telephone Company)

Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Ft. Mill Telephone Company, d/b/a Comporium

Home Telephone ILEC, LLC d/b/a Home Telecom

Lancaster Telephone Company, d/b/a Comporium

Lockhart Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista

McClellanville Telephone Company (TDS)

Norway Telephone Company (TDS)

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

PBT Telecom, d/b/a Comporium

Ridgeway Telephone Company, d/b/a TruVista

St. Stephen Telephone Company (TDS)

West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Williston Telephone Company (TDS)

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	Long Distance Service Offerings	)	

I, Kathy Handrock, a Paralegal with Burr & Forman LLP, do hereby certify that I have this date served one (1) copy of the foregoing Stipulation upon the following parties of record by causing said copies to be deposited in the United States Mail, First Class, postage prepaid to:

Carey Roesel Inteserra Consulting Group, Inc. 151 Southhall Lane, Ste. 1450 Maitland, FL 32751

Frank R. Ellerbe, III, Esquire Samuel J. Wellborn, Esquire Robinson Gray PO Box 11449 Columbia, SC 29211 C. Lessie Hammonds, Esquire Office of Regulatory Staff 1401 Main Street, Suite 900 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

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March 13, 2019

Columbia, South Carolina